

Thor

The unworthy



004

MARVEL

AARON
COIPEL
DAUTERMAN
RIBIC
IRVING
WILSON
MILLA

OLIVIER COIPEL MW 2016

ON THE DAY THOR ODINSON LEARNED A LONG-KEPT SECRET STOLEN FROM THE WATCHER, HE DROPPED THE MYSTIC HAMMER MJOLNIR TO THE SURFACE OF THE MOON. TRY AS HE MIGHT, THOR COULD NOT LIFT HIS ONCE-FAITHFUL WEAPON. UNABLE TO POSSESS THE POWER OF HIS BIRTHRIGHT, THE THUNDER GOD RELINQUISHED THE NAME OF THOR AND NOW SIMPLY CALLS HIMSELF ODINSON. NOW HE SEARCHES FOR REDEMPTION, BUT UNTIL HE FINDS IT, HE WILL REMAIN...

The unworthy THOR



WHEN THE BEING KNOWN AS THE UNSEEN ALERTED HIM TO THE EXISTENCE OF ANOTHER HAMMER ON OLD ASGARD, ODINSON RACED TO THE RUINS OF HIS FORMER HOME, BUT FOUND THE ENTIRE REALM MISSING. FORTUNATELY, HIS OLD FRIEND BETA RAY BILL KNEW WHO HAD STOLEN IT: THE COLLECTOR. OUTMATCHED, THE PAIR WERE CAPTURED AND IMPRISONED.

BUT THE COLLECTOR ISN'T THE ONLY ONE AFTER THE HAMMER. AIDED BY A MYSTERIOUS ALLY, THE IMPRISONED THANOS UNLEASHED HIS LACKEYS--BLACK SWAN AND PROXIMA MIDNIGHT--ON THE COLLECTOR'S SHIP. MEANWHILE, ODINSON AND BETA RAY BILL BROKE OUT AND FREED THE MURDEROUS HEL-HOUND THORI AND ODINSON'S TRUSTY STEED TOOTHGNASHER.

AFTER MISTAKENLY TARGETING STORMBREAKER, BETA RAY BILL'S HAMMER, THANOS' SERVANTS CONFRONTED THE COLLECTOR AND BATTLED FOR POSSESSION OF THE ULTIMATE THOR'S HAMMER. BUT ODINSON AND HIS FRIENDS ARE COMING FOR THEM...

WAR OF THE UNWORTHY

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 **THOR CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER & JACK KIRBY**



MANY YEARS AGO.
THE WEAPONS HALL
OF ASGARD.



RRGGGH!!!



MOVE, YOU
BLASTED HUNK
OF URU!



THOR?

SON, WHAT
IN THE NAME OF
THE GODS ARE
YOU DOING?



I FELT IT
MOVE, MOTHER.
IT LIFTED OFF THE
PEDESTAL FOR AT
LEAST A SECOND,
I *SWEAR*. I JUST
HAVE TO...



RRRRGGH!!!



THOR,
PLEASE TELL
ME YOU HAVEN'T
BEEN AT THIS
ALL NIGHT.

my son,
THIS IS
MADNESS.





I HEAR IT CALLING ME, MOTHER. EVERY DAY. THIS HAMMER IS MY *DESTINY*. I KNOW IT. AND YET, I STILL CANNOT...

I FOUGHT A DRAGON TODAY. SAVED AN ENTIRE VILLAGE ON MIDGARD.

THEN I... RESCUED A CHILD KIDNAPPED BY TROLLS. RIGHTED A CAPSIZED VIKING SHIP. WHAT MORE...



...WHAT MORE DO I HAVE TO DO...TO BE WORTHY?



THOR. MY BELOVED SON. LOOK AT ME. LOOK AT YOUR MOTHER, FREYJA, AND HEAR MY WORDS AS IF THEY WERE THUNDER.

NO HAMMER IN ALL THE HEAVENS CAN MAKE YOU A BETTER GOD. ONLY THE HEART THAT BEATS IN YOUR CHEST CAN DO THAT.



MAYBE IF I... FIND ANOTHER DRAGON. A *LARGER* DRAGON. THE LARGEST DRAGON IN--


NO. NO MORE DRAGONS. GET THEE TO BED, GOD OF THUNDER. MOTHER'S ORDERS.

THE HAMMER WILL STILL BE THERE TOMORROW, MY SON. 'TIS JUST A HAMMER, AFTER ALL...




"...IT ISN'T GOING ANYWHERE."

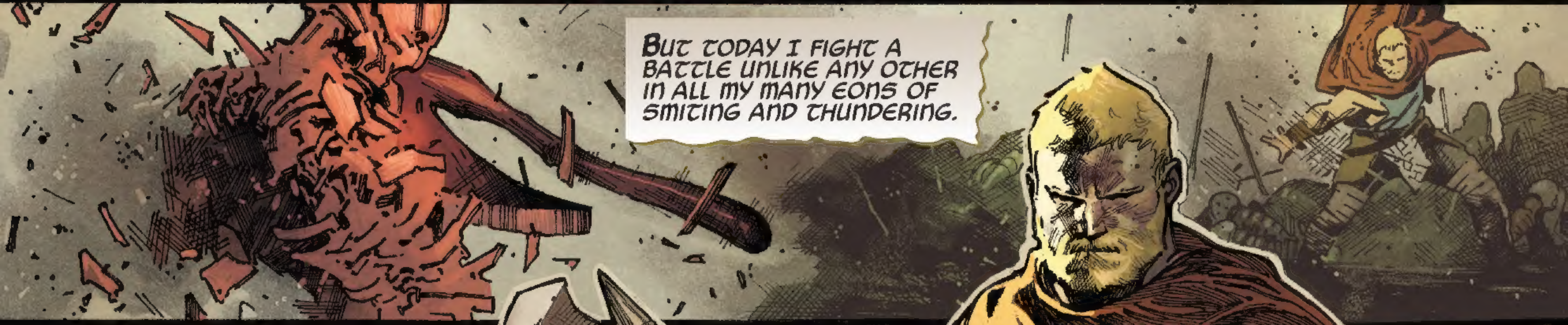
I HAVE FACED COUNTLESS FEARSOME BATTLES OVER THE YEARS.




FIGHTING ALONGSIDE GODS AND AVENGERS.




TAKING ON GIANTS AND COSMIC CONQUERORS AND BEINGS BEYOND EVEN AN IMMORTAL'S COMPREHENSION.



BUT TODAY I FIGHT A BATTLE UNLIKE ANY OTHER IN ALL MY MANY EONS OF SMITING AND THUNDERING.



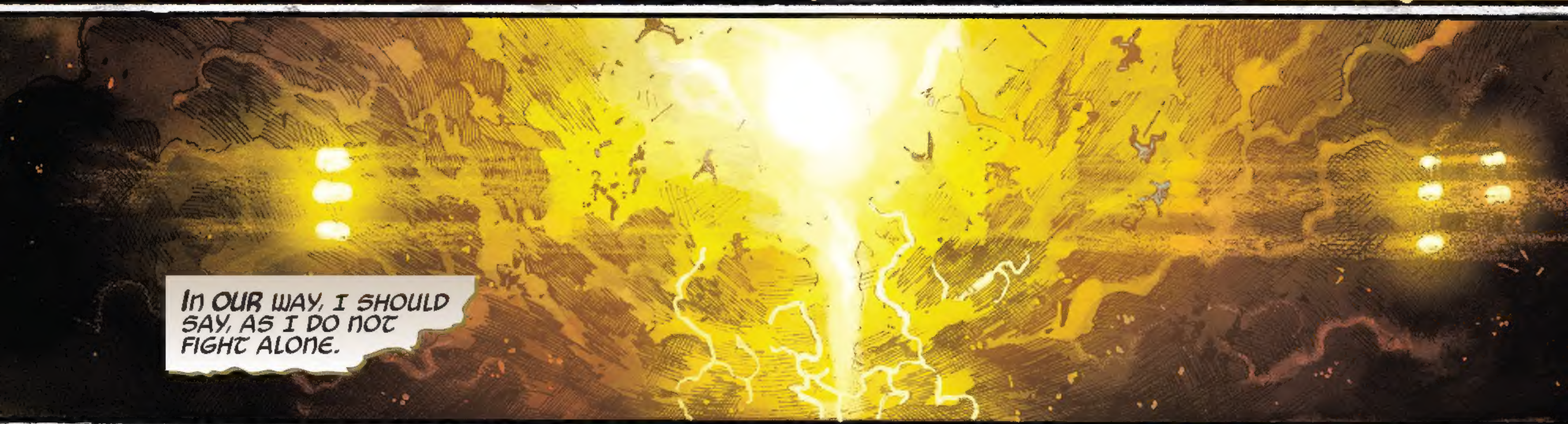
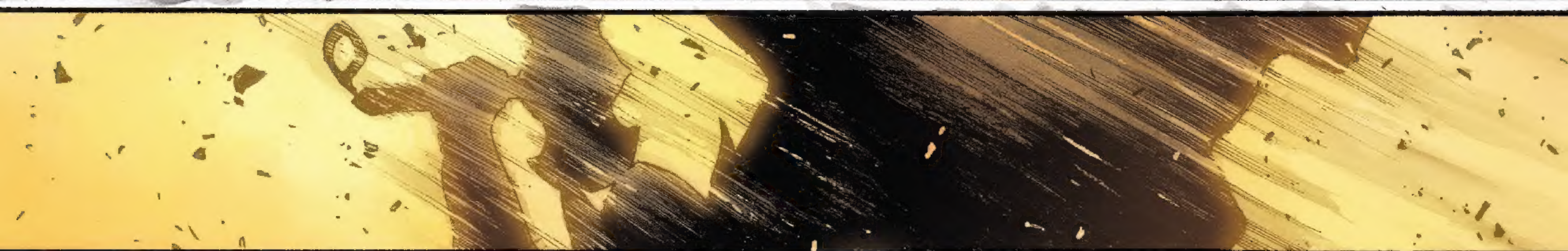
TODAY I FIGHT TO BE WHOLE AGAIN. TO BE THE GOD I WAS ALWAYS DESTINED TO BE.



TODAY I FIGHT TO BE WORTHY.



And no power in all
the heavens will
stand in my way.



In our way, I should
say, as I do not
fight alone.




I am joined by
my friend, my
goat. And...




...An enthusiastic
new acquaintance.

MURDER
MURDER
MURDER!



THOUGH THE MINIONS OF OUR FOE ARE SEEMINGLY WITHOUT END, WE FIGHT ON. ONWARD THROUGH THE HALLS OF THE COLLECTOR'S GREAT SPACE VESSEL.

WE FIGHT UNTIL AT LAST I SEE IT AGAIN, WITH MY OWN EYES...



OLD ASGARD. WHERE ONCE DWELT THE GODS.

WHERE NOW LIES...

...MY SALVATION.



ENOUGH! THIS FOLLY ENDS NOW!

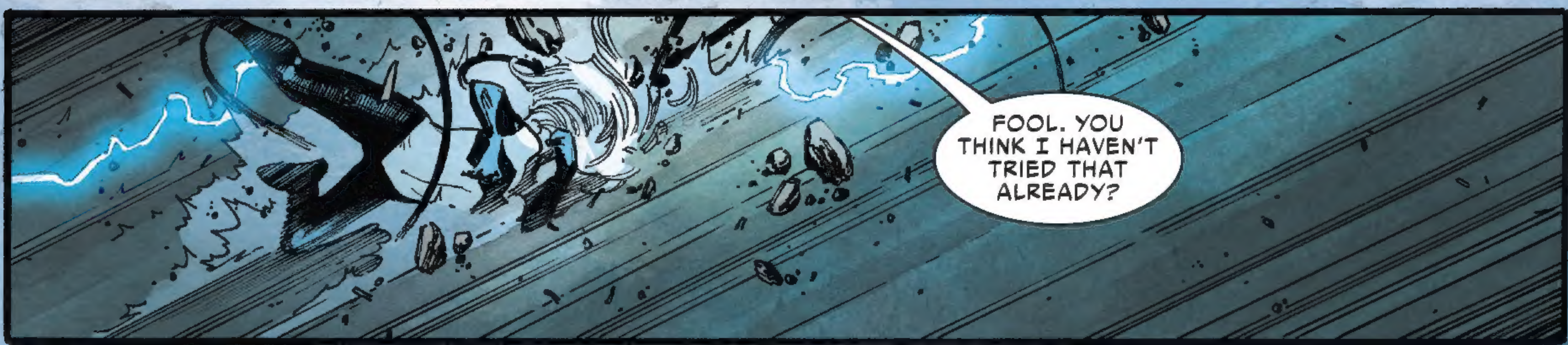


YOU HAVE NO HOPE OF VICTORY THIS DAY, COLLECTOR. NOT AGAINST THE BLACK ORDER.

THANOS WANTS, WHICH MEANS THANOS GETS.



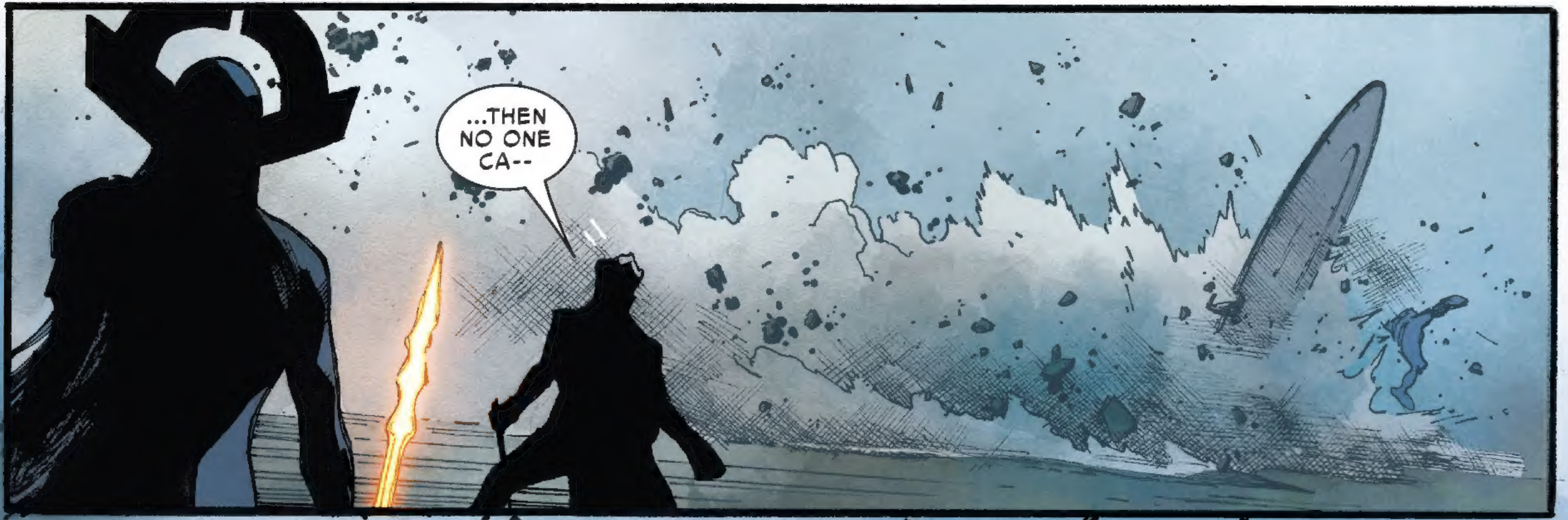
THE LORD OF TITAN WILL HAVE HIS TRIBUTE, AND THE BLACK SWAN WILL BE THE ONE WHO...



FOOL. YOU THINK I HAVEN'T TRIED THAT ALREADY?



IF AN ELDER OF THE UNIVERSE CANNOT LIFT THE BLASTED THING...



...THEN
NO ONE
CA--



I HAVE
COME FOR WHAT
IS MINE.

STAND
ASIDE.



OR BE
READY TO
BLEED.

BLEED. YES.
PERHAPS IF WE
BATHE IN HIS GOD
BLOOD, WE'LL BE
ABLE TO LIFT
THAT WRETCHED
HAMMER.

OR IF WE
WEAR HIS
FLESH LIKE
MITTENS.

NONE
OF YOU WILL
DARE TOUCH MY
PROPERTY! YOU
WILL **BECOME**
IT!

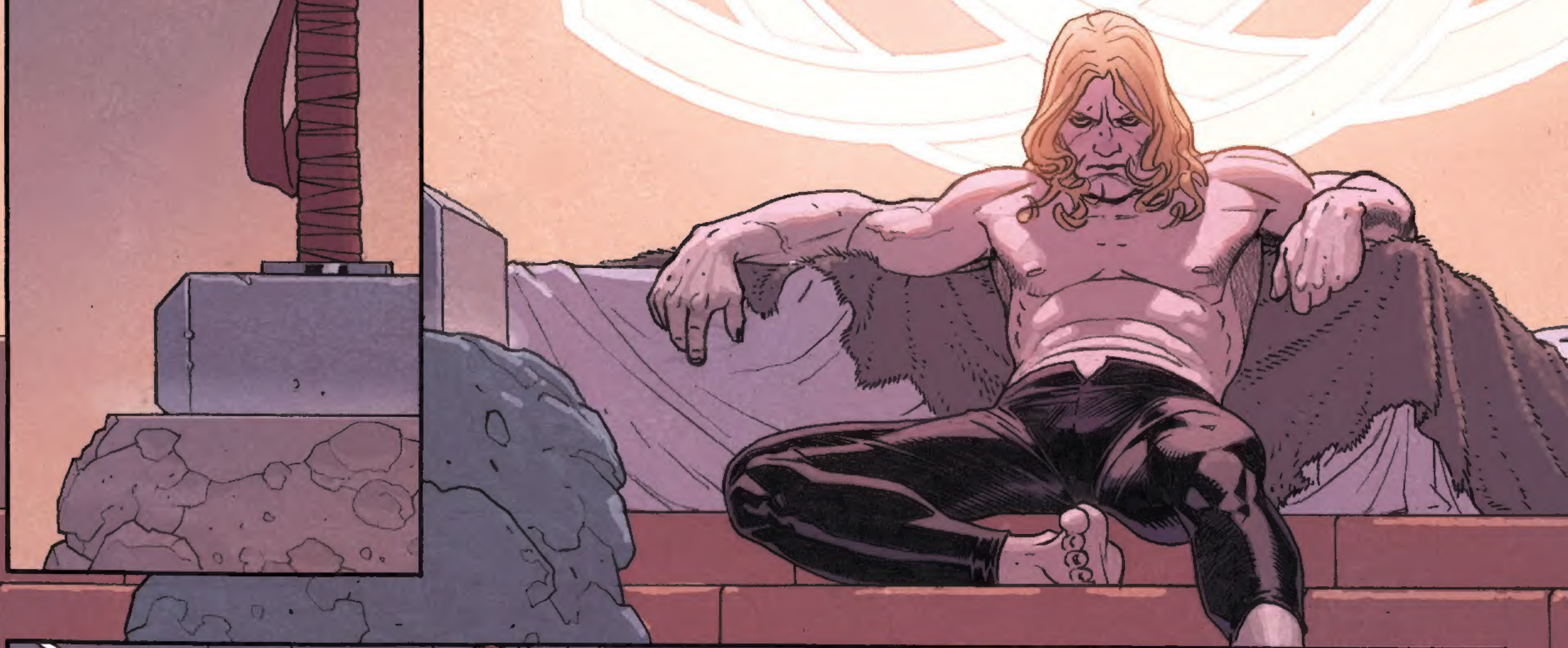
DON'T BELIEVE
HIS BOASTS. THE
ODINSON IS JUST AS
UNWORTHY AS THE
REST OF US.

KILL
HIM.



YEARS
AGO.
ASGARD.

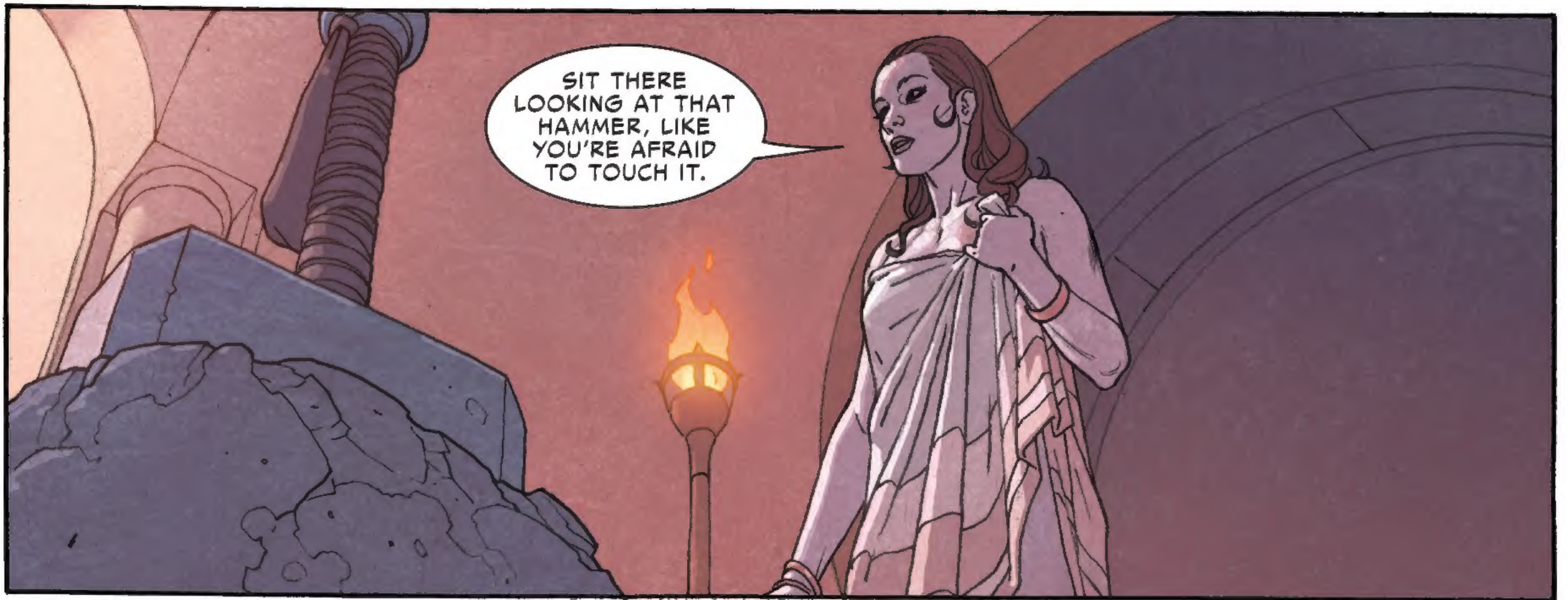
PRIVATE QUARTERS OF THOR.



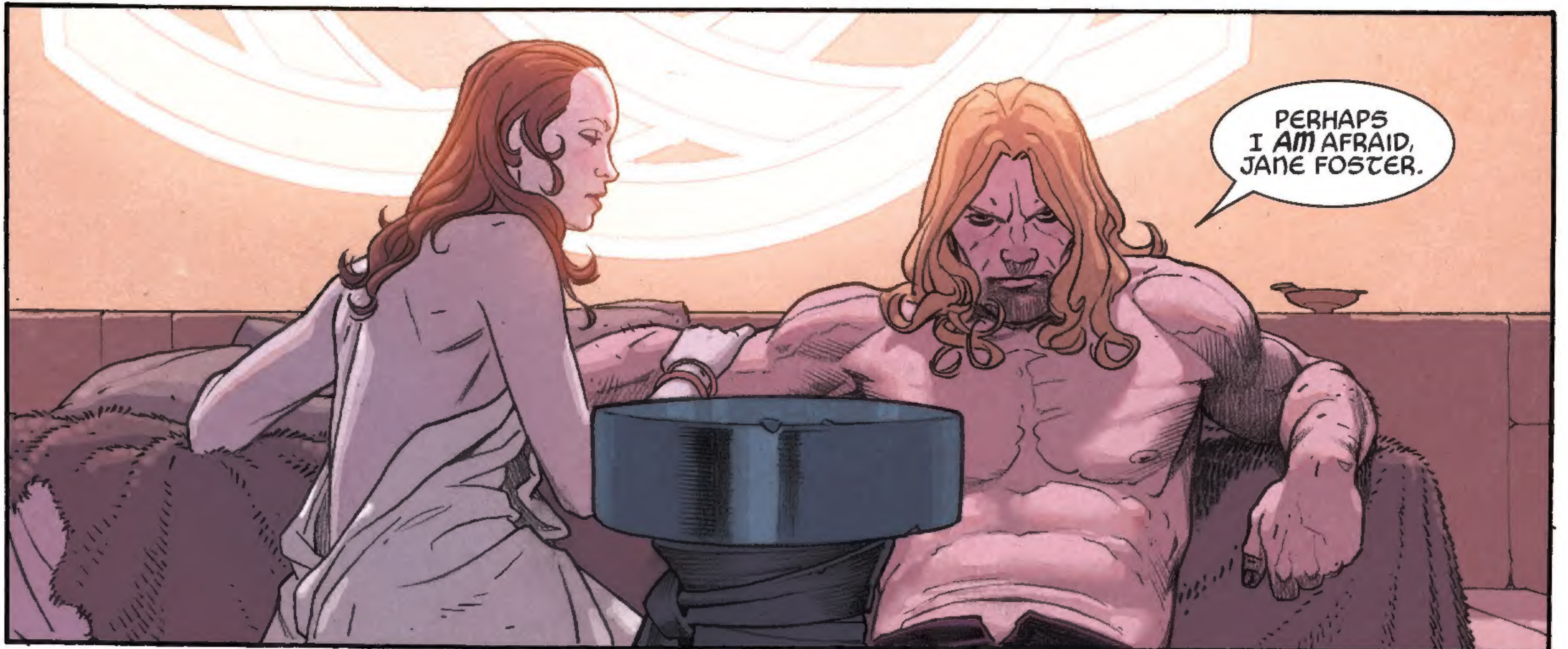
YOU DO THIS
EVERY MORNING,
DON'T YOU?

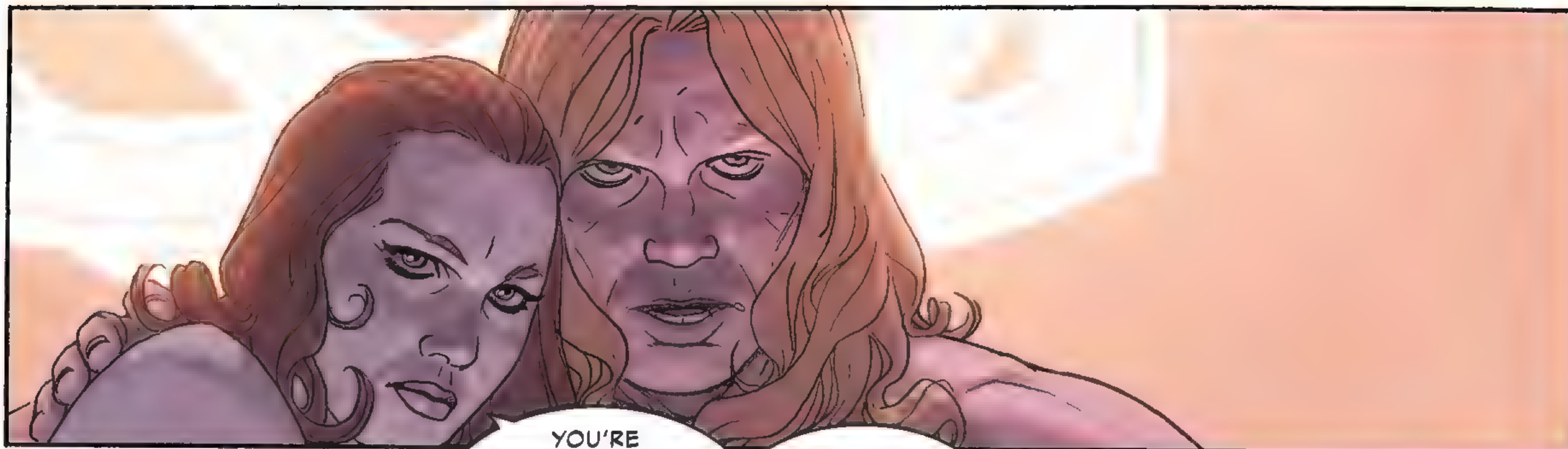
DO
WHAT?

SIT THERE
LOOKING AT THAT
HAMMER, LIKE
YOU'RE AFRAID
TO TOUCH IT.



PERHAPS
I AM AFRAID,
JANE FOSTER.



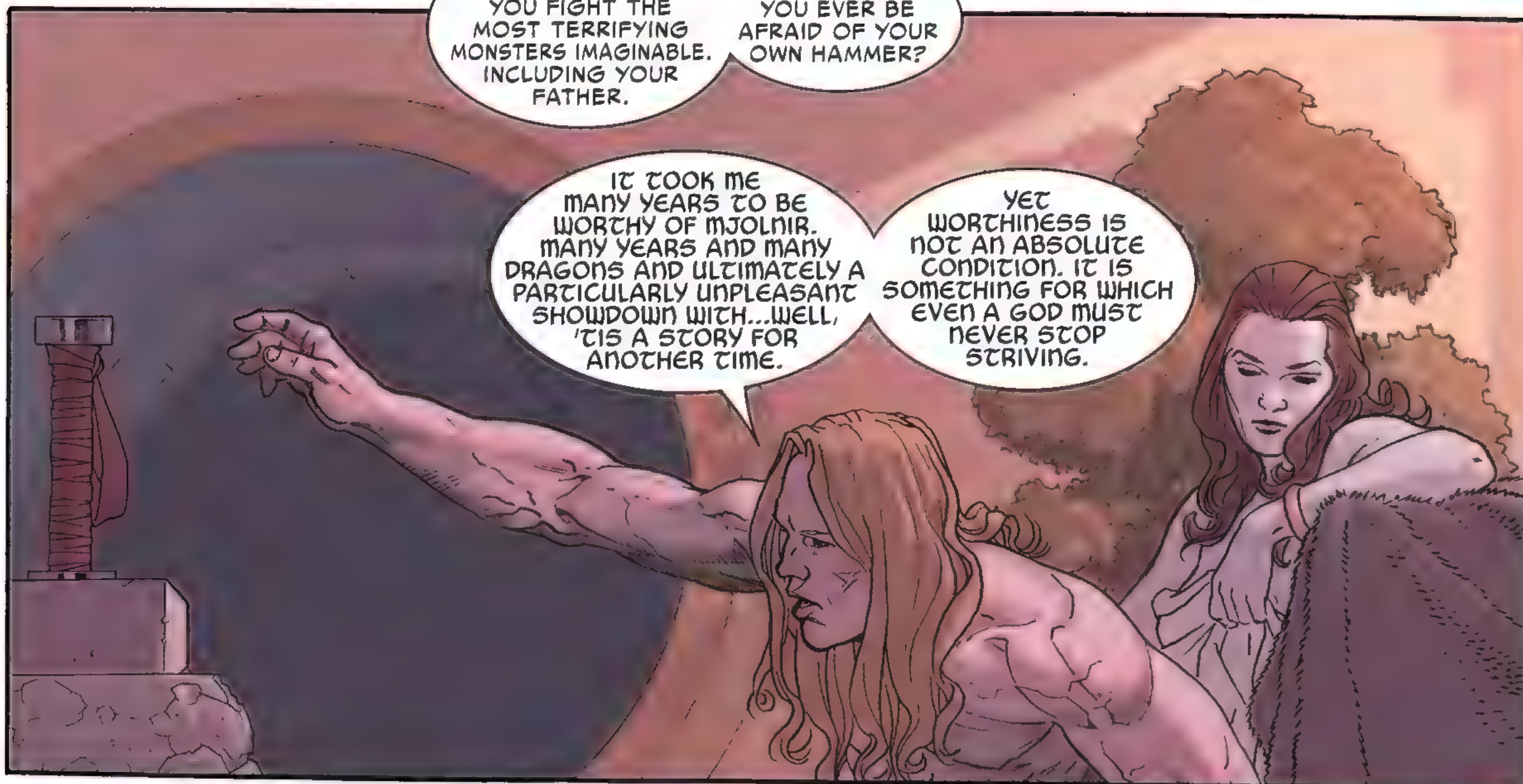


YOU'RE
THOR. I'VE SEEN
YOU FIGHT THE
MOST TERRIFYING
MONSTERS IMAGINABLE.
INCLUDING YOUR
FATHER.

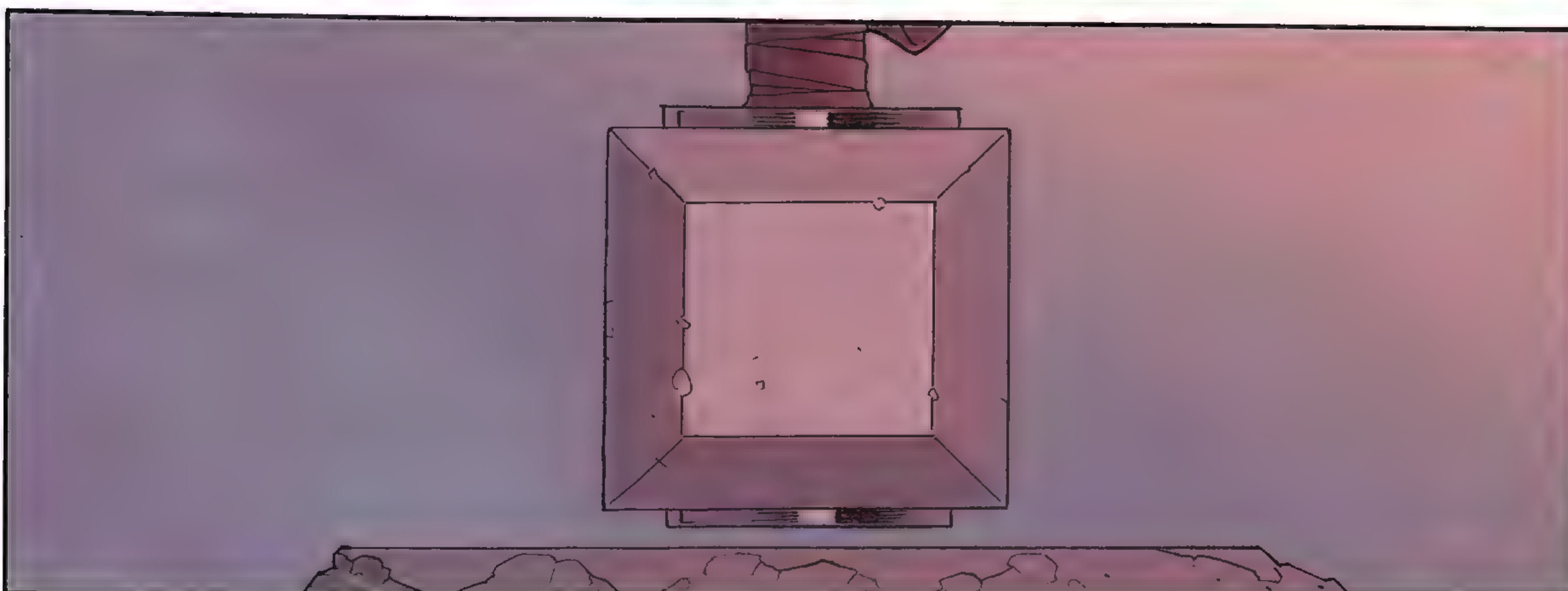
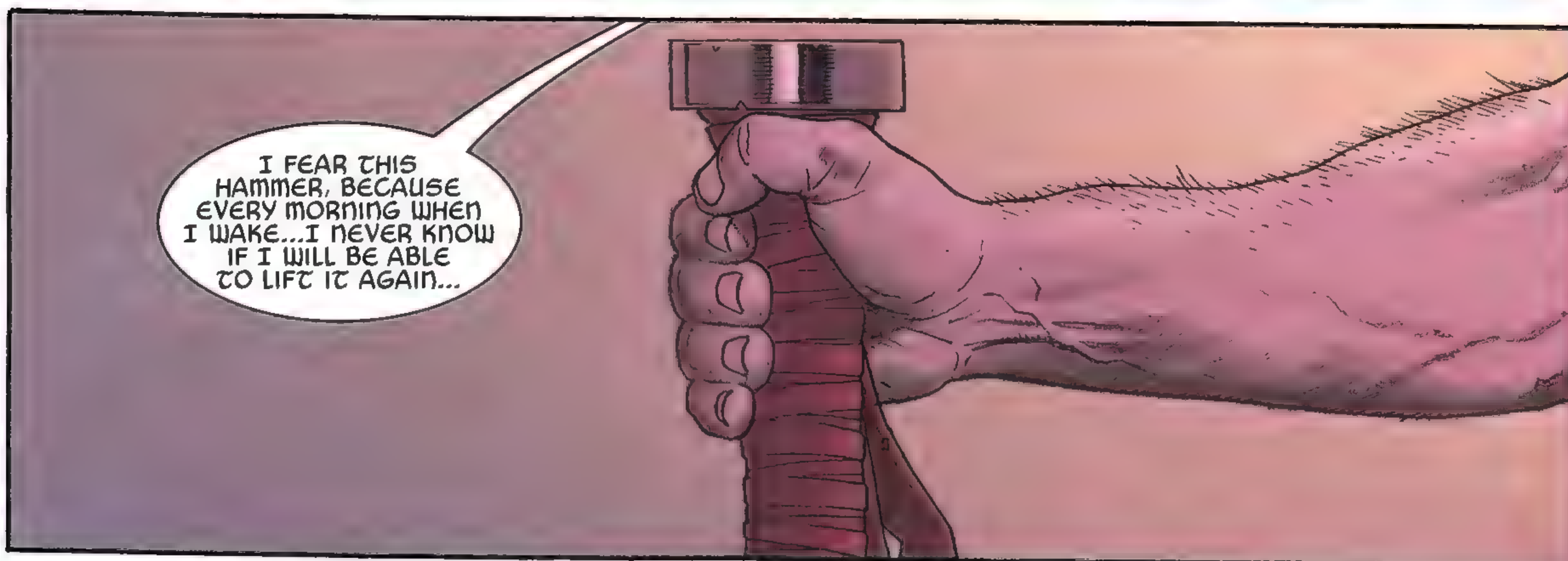
WHY WOULD
YOU EVER BE
AFRAID OF YOUR
OWN HAMMER?

IT TOOK ME
MANY YEARS TO BE
WORTHY OF MJOLNIR.
MANY YEARS AND MANY
DRAGONS AND ULTIMATELY A
PARTICULARLY UNPLEASANT
SHOWDOWN WITH...WELL,
'TIS A STORY FOR
ANOTHER TIME.

YET
WORTHINESS IS
NOT AN ABSOLUTE
CONDITION. IT IS
SOMETHING FOR WHICH
EVEN A GOD MUST
NEVER STOP
STRIVING.

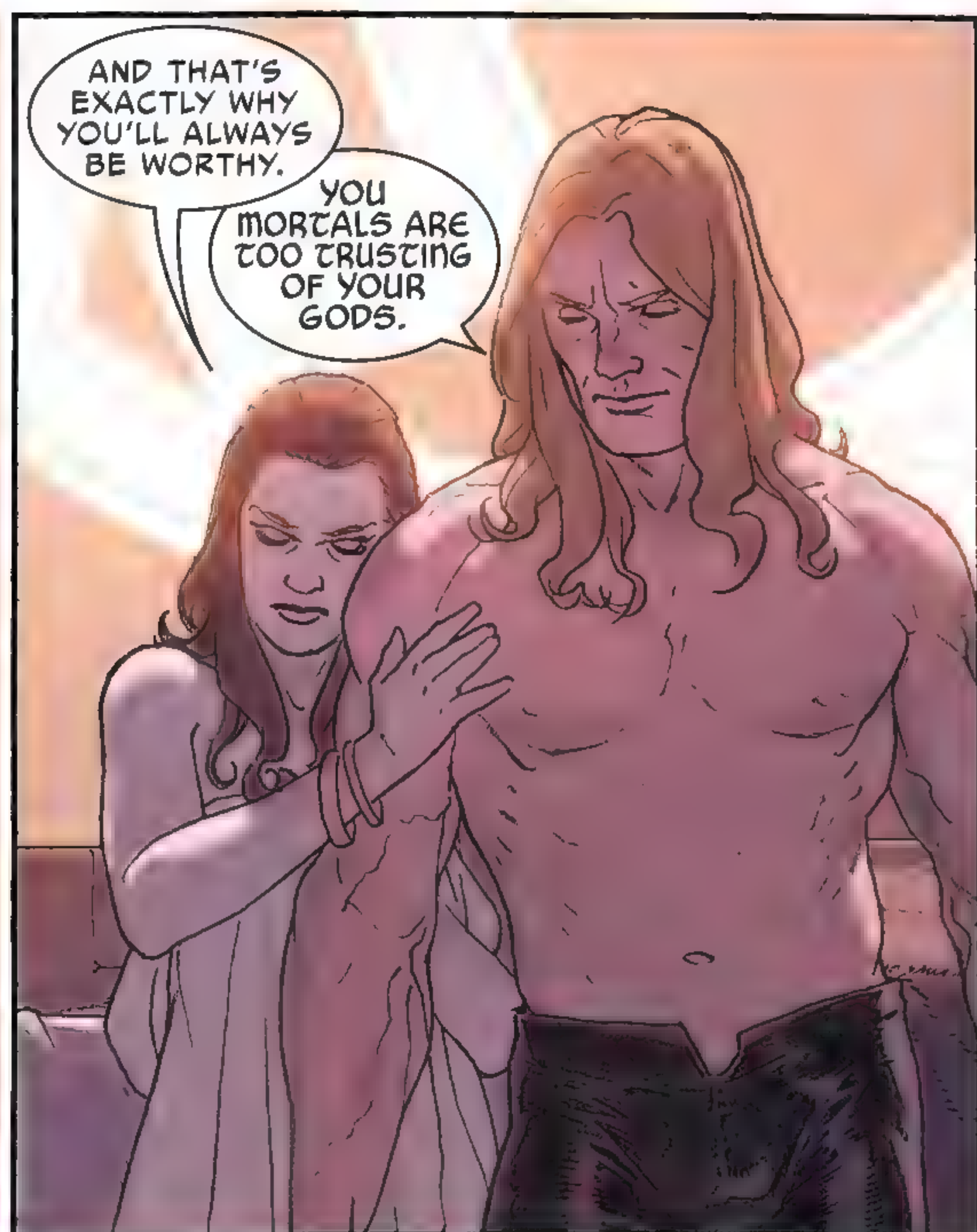


I FEAR THIS
HAMMER, BECAUSE
EVERY MORNING WHEN
I WAKE...I NEVER KNOW
IF I WILL BE ABLE
TO LIFT IT AGAIN...



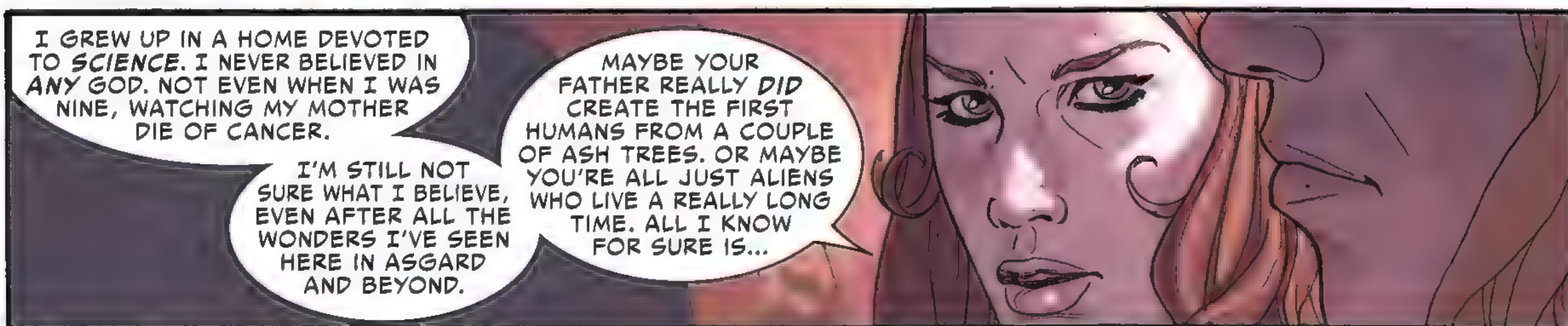


...UNTIL I DO.



AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHY YOU'LL ALWAYS BE WORTHY.

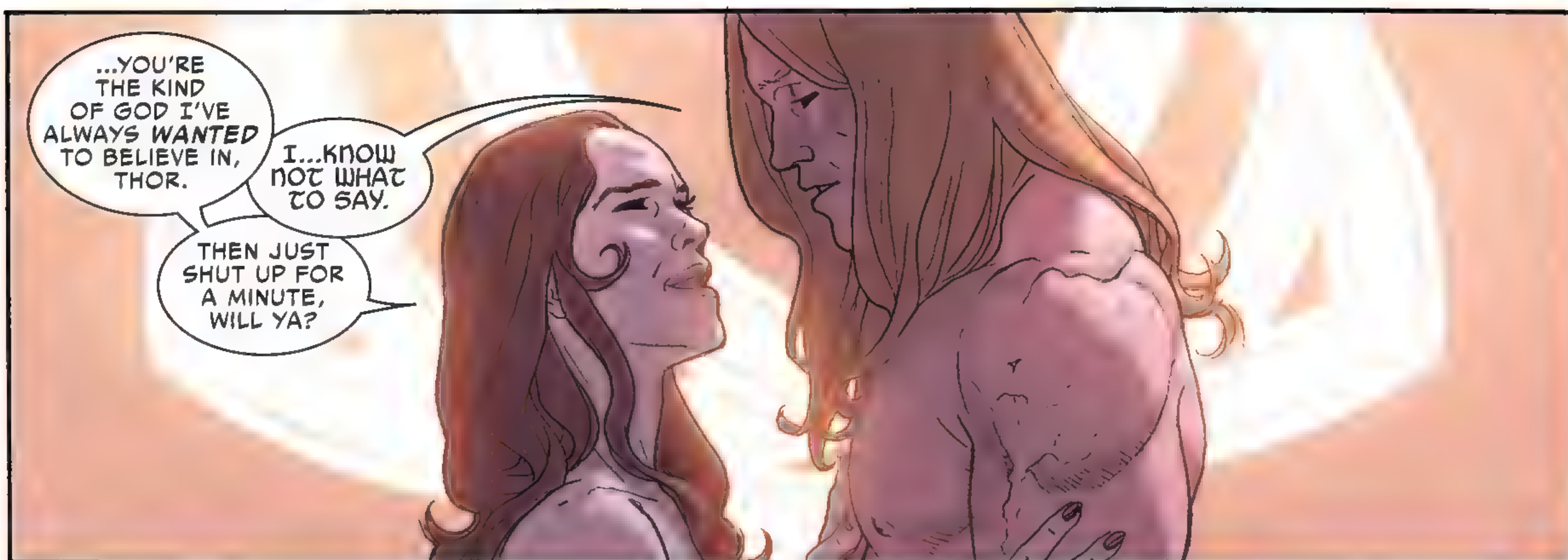
YOU MORTALS ARE TOO TRUSTING OF YOUR GODS.



I GREW UP IN A HOME DEVOTED TO SCIENCE. I NEVER BELIEVED IN ANY GOD. NOT EVEN WHEN I WAS NINE, WATCHING MY MOTHER DIE OF CANCER.

I'M STILL NOT SURE WHAT I BELIEVE, EVEN AFTER ALL THE WONDERS I'VE SEEN HERE IN ASGARD AND BEYOND.

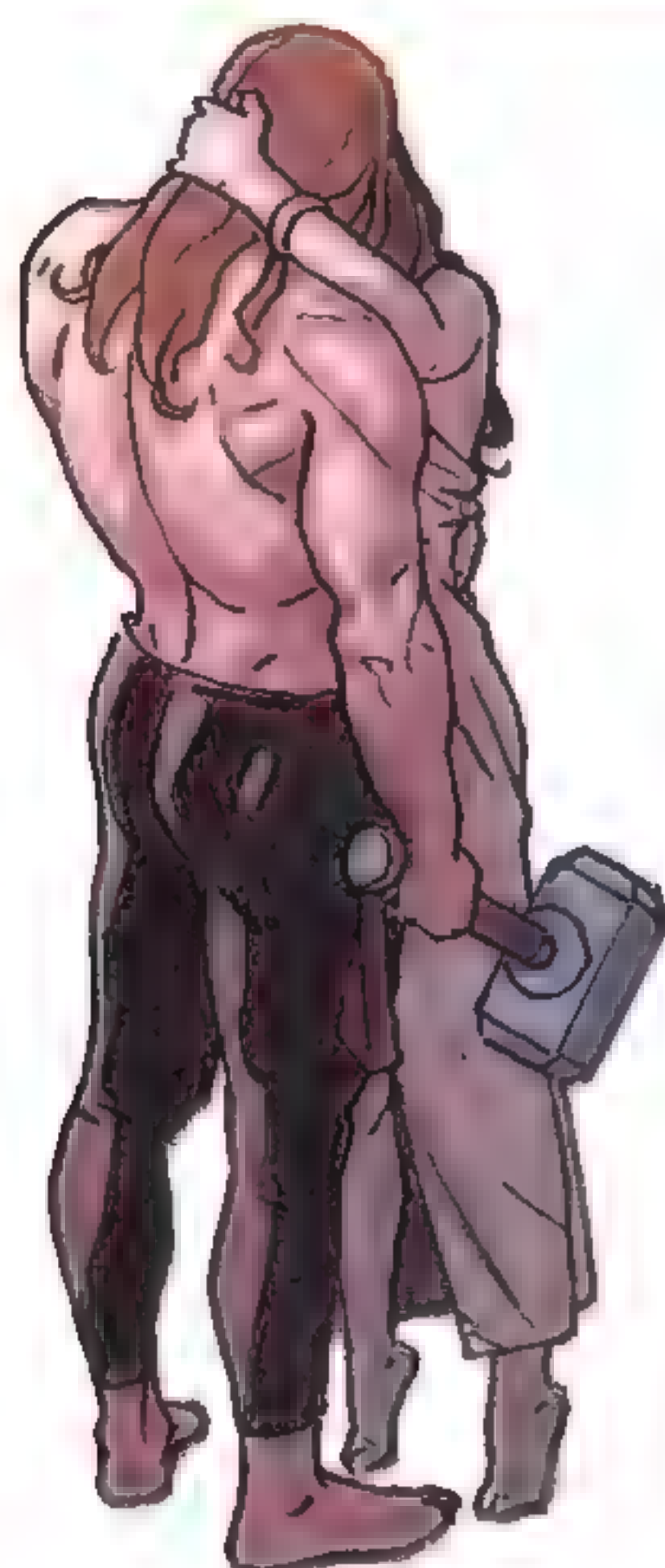
MAYBE YOUR FATHER REALLY DID CREATE THE FIRST HUMANS FROM A COUPLE OF ASH TREES. OR MAYBE YOU'RE ALL JUST ALIENS WHO LIVE A REALLY LONG TIME. ALL I KNOW FOR SURE IS...



...YOU'RE THE KIND OF GOD I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BELIEVE IN, THOR.

I...KNOW NOT WHAT TO SAY.

THEN JUST SHUT UP FOR A MINUTE, WILL YA?



NOW.

THANOS DIDN'T ASK FOR YOUR HEAD, ASGARDIAN. BUT PERHAPS I'LL BRING IT TO HIM ANYWAY.

THANOS ALREADY HAS A HEAD. 'TIS *GUTS* HE IS SORELY LACKING. IF HE SHOULD FIND SOME, TELL HIM THE PRINCE OF ASGARD WILL BE WAITING TO FACE HIM--

--HAMMER IN HAND!

GAGGH!

BLACK SWAN!

I HEAR THAT ALMIGHTY THANOS SITS INSIDE A JAIL CELL ON EARTH. YOU WILL SOON FIND YOURSELF JOINING HIM.

ACTUALLY, YOU WILL SOON BE JOINING THE REST OF YOUR HORSE-FACED RACE--

--IN OBLIVION, KORBINITE BASTARD!

A HEL-HOUND? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

STAND DOWN, DOG. I COMMAND YOU, AS...

HRR. DON'T THINK YOU COMMAND NOTHING NO MORE.


ESPECIALLY NOT *THIS* DOG!

SOMEONE PUT THIS INFERNAL GOAT BACK IN ITS CAGE!



Will it feel any different?

RRRGHH!




unh...

When I heft it
and throw it?
When it
magically returns
to my hand?

When I fly?




By all the gods,
do I miss flying.




Will it whisper,
like the other
one always--



HRRRGH!!!

A wide shot of Thor falling through a blue sky filled with debris. He is upside down, wearing his red and blue armor. A speech bubble from him is in the top left.

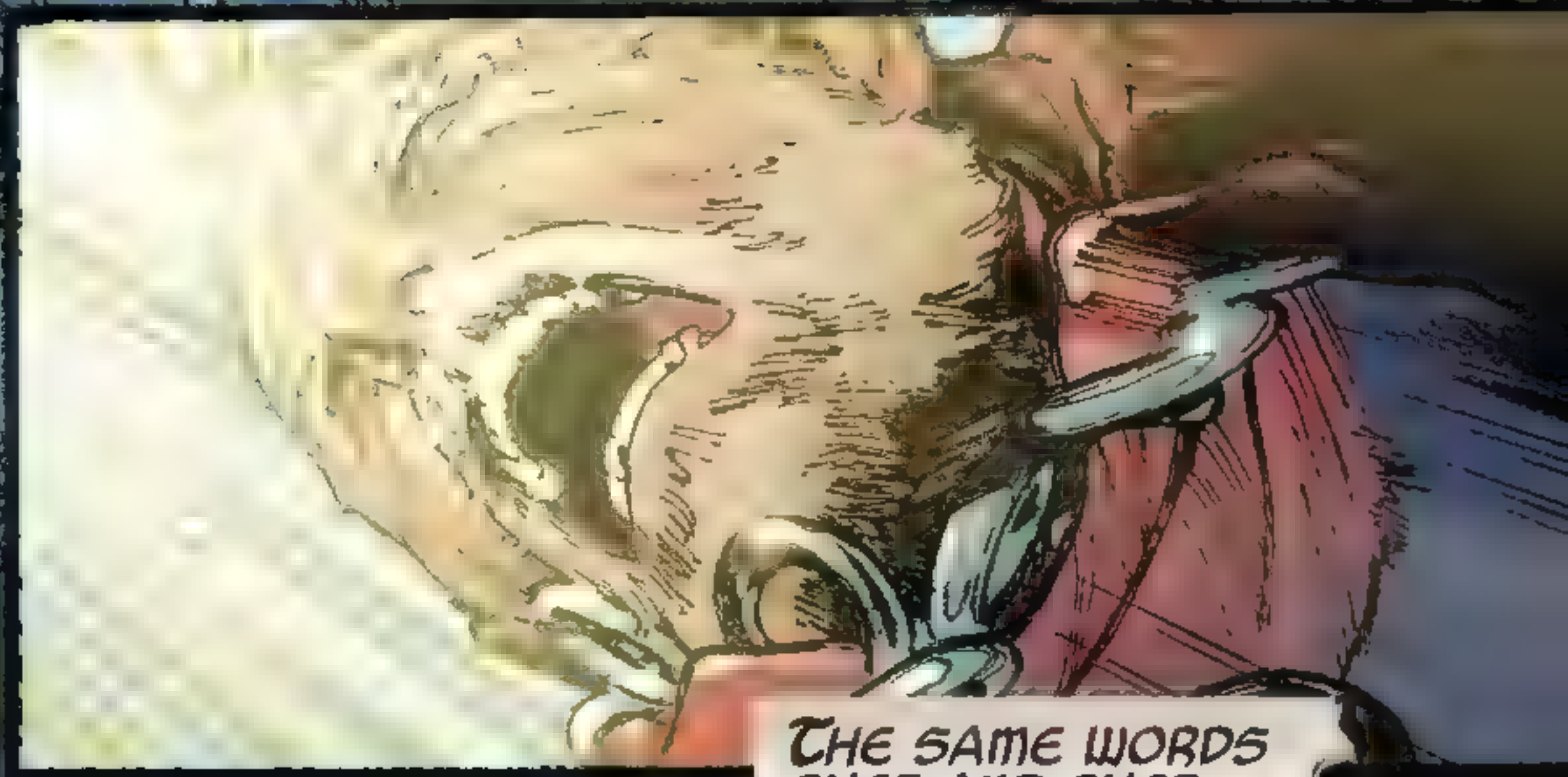
I TOLD YOU,
YOU UNWORTHY
WASTE OF A THOR...
THAT HAMMER
BELONGS TO ME!

Odin, with long white hair and a red robe, sits on his ornate throne. He looks up with a determined expression. Several glowing golden spheres float around him. A speech bubble from him is in the top left.

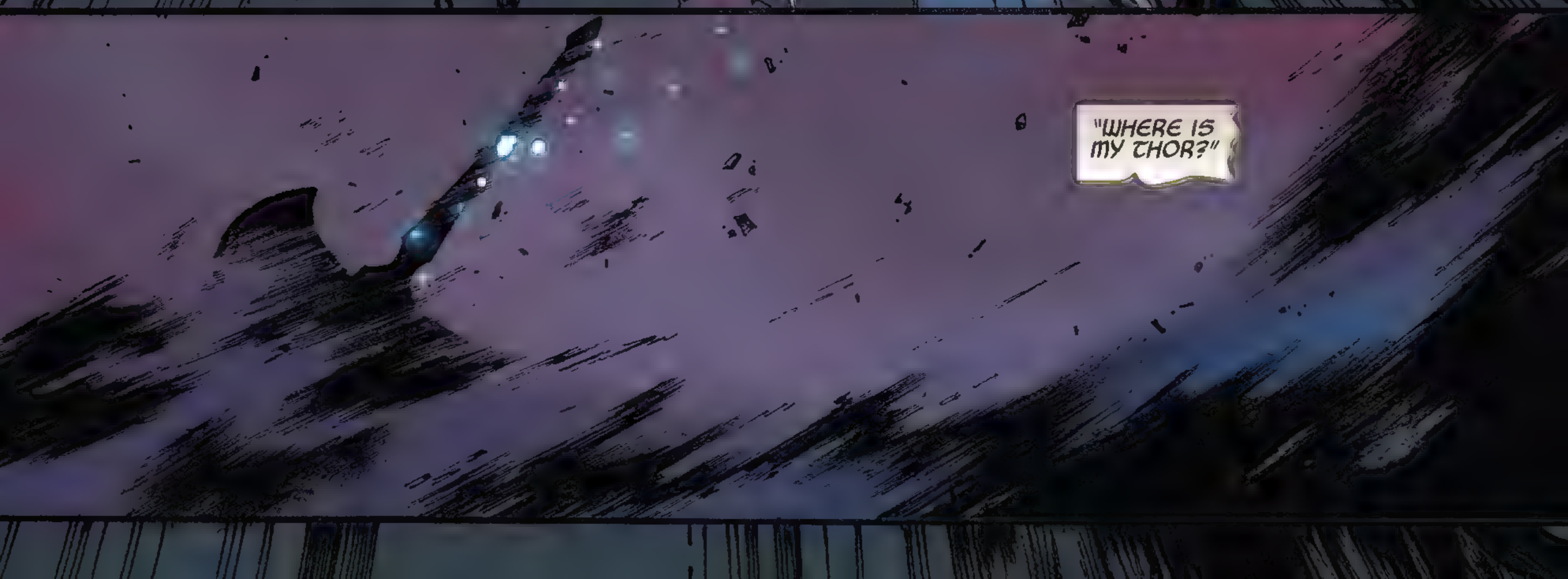
YOU **ALL**
BELONG TO
ME!

NO, 'TIS NOT
A WHISPER.

THE HAMMER
IS SCREAMING.
SCREAMING LIKE
THUNDER.



THE SAME WORDS
OVER AND OVER.

A dark, stormy sea with a massive wave crashing. Thor is seen falling into the water, his body partially submerged. A speech bubble from him is in the top right.

"WHERE IS
MY THOR?"

 **NINE MONTHS AGO.**
ASGARDIA.

**PRIVATE QUARTERS
OF THE ODINSON.**

AH,
THOR? OR...
I MEAN...
ODINSON?

I STILL REALLY
HATE TO CALL YOU
THAT. "SON OF ODIN"
SOUNDS MORE LIKE
AN INSULT THAN
A NAME.

COULDN'T
I MAYBE CALL
YOU "PRINCE"
OR...

...SORRY,
THE DOOR
WAS OPEN.

AND
I WAS
WORRIED.



I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR DAYS. I'VE HEARD YOU'VE HARDLY LEFT YOUR ROOM SINCE, UM...THAT WHOLE THING ON THE MOON.

HELLO? I CAN COME BACK SOME OTHER TIME, IF YOU'RE BUSY?



BUSY. AYE. QUITE BUSY.

BUSY BEING USELESS AND UNWORTHY.



AS SOMEONE WHO HAS LOVED YOU FOR A VERY LONG TIME, BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY... THE HAMMER DOESN'T MAKE THE MAN.

YOU ARE SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST A CHUNK OF URU.



EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, JANE FOSTER. YOU'VE NEVER HELD IT.



THOR, WAIT...

NOT MY NAME!

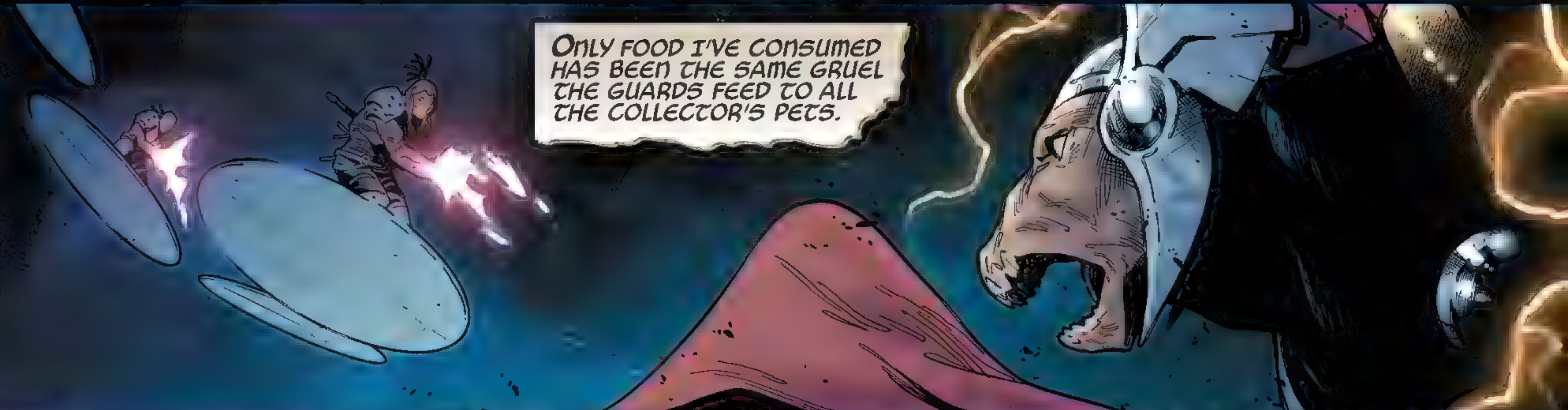
BUT... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO FIND THE ONE THING IN ASGARDIA WHICH I AM STILL CAPABLE OF LIFTING.


MEAD! AND MUCH OF IT!



HAVEN'T HAD
A DRINK IN
MONTHS.



ONLY FOOD I'VE CONSUMED
HAS BEEN THE SAME GRUEL
THE GUARDS FEED TO ALL
THE COLLECTOR'S PETS.



HAVEN'T SEEN THE
STARS, OR THE FACES
OF MY FRIENDS.

HAVEN'T HEARD MY MOTHER'S
VOICE, JUST TO KNOW SHE
IS WELL, EVEN THOUGH
SOMETHING DEEP IN MY
GUT TELLS ME SHE IS NOT.

AAAARGH!!



HAVEN'T SLEPT, UNLESS
YOU COUNT BEING
BEATEN UNCONSCIOUS.

IN OTHER WORDS, NOT
ONLY AM I UNWORTHY...
I AM IRRITABLE.

A SUPREMELY DANGEROUS
COMBINATION.

ESPECIALLY WHEN ONE
HAS AN ENCHANTED AXE...

...AN ARM OF
BLACK URU...

...AND A LARGE,
HUNGRY GOAT.

THORI IS
TRYING TO FETCH.
GOOD DOG.

HRRGGH.
TASTES WORSE
THAN HEL-HOUND
POO.



A WHISPER. THAT WAS ALL IT TOOK.

I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE IN A CAGE OR STUFFED AND MOUNTED! BUT YOU ARE ALL MY PROPERTY!

AND NO ONE HERE GETS OUT ALIVE!

?

A WHISPER I STILL CANNOT UNHEAR.

AND WORSE YET... CANNOT REFUTE.

AGH!

A WHISPER.

A WHISPER WAS ALL IT TOOK TO BRING ME DOWN.

TO RISE AGAIN, I NEED TO BE STRONGER THAN WHISPERS.

STRONGER THAN MY ENEMIES. STRONGER THAN UNWORTHINESS.

AND I NEED ONE OTHER THING.

A full-page comic book illustration of Thor. He is shown from the waist up, wearing his iconic blue tunic and red cape. He has a determined, slightly angry expression on his face. He is holding his hammer, Mjolnir, in his right hand, which is raised high. The hammer is glowing with a bright blue energy. The background is a dark, stormy sky with several bright yellow lightning bolts striking around Thor. The overall tone is dramatic and powerful.

I NEED A
HAMMER.

YES.
THE UNSEEN
SEES.

WHAT
BEGAN WITH A
WHISPER...

...NOW
ENDS WITH
THUNDER.

 TO BE CONCLUDED.



AND LO, THERE CAME... AXE ME A QUESTION

SEND LETTERS TO MHEROES@MARVEL.COM, DON'T FORGET TO MARK "OKAY TO PRINT!"

Hey there, Hammerheads,
How 'bout that cliffhanger? I've still got chills. Odinson's hammer hunt is almost over, but with Jason caught up in that pesky Asgard-Shi'Ar War over in MIGHTY, he's short on time to answer your letters this month. But don't despair: new Associate Editor Sarah Brunstad is here, hammer-like pen in hand! Okay, you might not be excited, but I sure am. So let's get to it:

Dear UNWORTHY THOR team,
I'd like to start my letter by saying: Welcome back, Odinson!

Even though I've kind of adjusted to Dr. Jane Foster/Thor (Despite the fact that as a girl, I'm supposed to be a feminist, the idea of Jane wielding Mjolnir took some time for me to swallow), it's still a great pleasure to witness the return of one of Marvel's original greatest heroes. I have a confession to make: Thor Odinson was never one of my favorite characters, but I always loved the world of Thor. Gods, monsters, dark magic—all this might prove intimidating, but for some mortals like me, it's uplifting. The Ten Realms show you that there is still much to wonder about in the world. That and the amazing storytelling still bring me back to the Thunder God. Thor has had some of the greatest story arcs in comic-book history. "Ragnarok," "Rebirth," "The God Butcher," and many others have stayed with me, filling my mind with both awe and horror. I realize now after reading the first issue of THE UNWORTHY THOR that despite not being my favorite, I had missed the Odinson. I guess you can tell how good a story is when you begin to sympathize even with the characters that you don't actually like. That's how awesome Marvel's Thor is, and this is how the magic of storytelling works. I don't like Thor Odinson, but I'm glad he's back.

Thank you for continuing this great saga!

Make Mine Marvel!
Caesara M. Lazar
Bacau, Romania

Thanks for jumping into Odinson's world with us! Jason writes a terrific brawl, but what makes his work so special is exactly what you're talking about: the emotional stakes that can't help but inspire empathy. Hopefully you'll come to find the same magic in THE MIGHTY THOR, but in the meantime, I think you'll love where the Odinson goes next.

Any Thor comic is improved by having Beta Ray Bill in it.

Zane Hayden

Now that's a sentiment I can get behind!

Let Me Axe You Something...

Or rather say some things. I have never written a letter before, but every time I put down an Aaron book, I want to jump on the computer and say that was the bam snip snap. Now that may be nonsense to you, but it's pretty #\$\$-@ awesome to me. I started collecting comics in 1990 at the age of 13, but somewhere in my early 20s, I stopped. There were many reasons, and none of those were good enough. I was raised to believe that when we become men, we put away childish things, and boy, were they wrong. I'm 39, and I thank God that I picked my lifelong hobby back up four years ago (I know, I know: How can it be lifelong if I quit for 15). It's because of writers like you, Aaron, and artists like you, Coipel, as well as the beautiful color work, that I'm glad I picked the books back up. And man, do I get a lot of books; sometimes too many. But I digress... I have been waiting patiently for what seems like years to continue Odinson's tale, and you guys knocked it out of the park. I mean, not only do get to read one of the best books on the market about the female Goddess of Thor dealing with cancer while fighting the War of the Realms, or Doctor Strange fighting with barely any magic, but now I get to see an Unworthy Asgardian on his way back to redemption. I am so pumped every month to see my two-to-

three inch stack at my store. And although I know they're not all winners, I can say this for sure: Aaron, your writing has never disappointed, and the teams that consistently support your words blow me away. Now will you please clear something up for me? At the end of the chaos wave that Red Skull unleashed, several characters were changed and not changed back. Loki was one of those characters, and he was even changed in his own book, so what happened after Secret Wars? How did Loki become evil again?

Until Galactus becomes the Lifebringer—oh wait that happened—

Anyways Make Mine Marvel!

'Nuff Said,
Tony Mullins

Hey Tony,

Jason's definitely got a way with words, don't he? I'm so glad you've come back to the comic book fold—and you can't go wrong with stunners like THE MIGHTY THOR and DOCTOR STRANGE on your pull list.

As for your question: When the Scarlet Witch's spell was reversed, both Thor and Loki returned to their previous moral axes (see what I did there?). And besides, he is the God of Lies—even in his most benevolent moments, who knows his true intentions? This is a whole new world, and if the trickster god isn't keeping you on your toes, no one will. Stay tuned!

To everyone behind THE UNWORTHY THOR,

I know it's just two issues in as I write this, but I'm liking the look of this series a lot. The Collector, Beta Ray Bill, and Thanos all in one really makes me interested, and I am looking forward to see where this will all be leading.

A highlight for me has been Olivier Coipel's art. I study art at school, and his work is something that I would love to be able to emulate in my own. The compositions are so well thought out and the characters have such a range of

clear expressions, and Matthew Wilson's colors compliment the art style and tone of the book so well. Without a doubt, I will be drawing some inspiration for my own project from the art in these first two issues—I can't wait to see more of it.

From Tom Andrews,
Bedfordshire, England

Hi Tom,

My drawing skills extend to the best stick figures you've ever seen, but even I'm inspired by these pages. Olivier and Matt make a perfect pairing—and we'd be nowhere without Joe Sabino's careful lettering and design. Keep up the good work, and we love to see Odinson-inspired art!

That was amazing! So interesting! Two quick questions: Was that Beta Ray Bill's first appearance in All-New, All-Different Marvel? And what do I have to read to find the origin of Asgardia?

Marshall B.

Right on, Marshall! This IS the first time Beta Ray has poked his hammer into the post-SECRET WARS Marvel Universe! As for Asgardia, it was built using Iron Man's repulsor technology after the old city of Asgard was destroyed in SIEGE. It became officially "Asgardia," under the rule of the All-Mother, in 2011's MIGHTY THOR #8.

Hooray, Thor is back!

That, together with "squeel!" and "thank God!" is my reaction to THE UNWORTHY THOR #1.

As a female reader, I almost feel guilty for not having more love for the other Thor title, but I'm afraid that the key word there is 'almost.' I've been reading Thor for more years than I should strictly like to admit, and I don't feel particularly apologetic about missing an old friend. I'm delighted to see him again, love the current bearded, noir-ish grit, and await the future developments with excitement.

Mr. Aaron's work on Thor has always been among my faves, so perhaps I should have had more faith all along. Sorry 'bout floundering for a bit. :) Oh, and, a special squee and then some for Mr. Coipel's amazing artwork. Thank you for giving me a reason to look forward to a comic book again!

Emma,
Toronto

Hi Emma,

I know exactly what you mean about "missing an old friend." Odinson's always been one of my favorite characters, so you're not alone in your "squees" for his return. Glad you stuck with us—and hey, maybe with Odinson around again, you'll feel a little more love for Thor, too.

Meet Halo, unworthy Norse goat from the wilds of Maine, ruminator of cedar shingles, gnasher of Republican trolls, consumer of kitchen cookbooks.

He says he'd be interested in an invite to the red carpet premier of Ragnarok too, but only if he can slurp mead with Jason, Chris, and Mark. He'll bring the hay.

Tom Liscord



Greetings, Halo! Truly a worthy name for such a majestic creature. You'll have no trouble swaggering onto the red carpet with those horns, my friend. Keep up the good munch!

That's all she wrote, folks! Join us next month for the last installment—when Odinson faces his final challenge for the hammer of the Ultimate Thor! (And maybe, just MAYBE, we'll learn what it was that Nick Fury whispered in his ear that made him unworthy!)

Till then,
Sarah

NEXT:

THE MIGHTY THOR #16



THE MIGHTY THOR #17



UNWORTHY THOR #5



